



N.O.W. News

Vol. 41 No. 4 Winter 2003



Season's Greetings

Numismatists of Wisconsin

is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock non-profit tax exempt corporation.

Your contributions are tax deductible.

The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$5 per year and entitles participants to NOW News, this quarterly publication. Among the services offered are coin authentication, a Speaker's Bureau, show calendar coordination and guidelines to assist coin clubs hosting the annual NOW convention.

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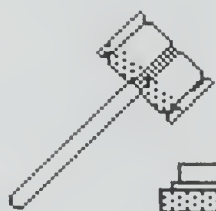
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News Deadline

News for the next issue should be sent to the Editor by February 1st



President's Message

by Bill Brandimore

We had a good time at the Madison show on November 2nd. We had a short board meeting and it appears that the affairs of NOW are in good order. Our funds are steady and consistent... staying at the same approximate level at this time last year.

We're moving forward with our elections and it appears that there are no contested positions. The following people were nominated to the board and accepted. Their terms will begin with the April NOW show in Sheboygan.

President: Thad Streeter

V. President: Mike Schiller

Board of Governors

RuthAnn Phillips Leon Saryan

Cliff Mishler Wm. Oldenburg

Our next board meeting will be at the Oshkosh show on February 15th, 2004.

That's a good show, so we hope to see all you there. Next year's NOW show will be hosted by the Sheboygan club at a Saturday show on April 17th, 2004. We look forward to that location and we'll bring some quarter boards with us for interested youngsters... and oldsters too!

The coin and paper money market continues strong. It's interesting looking at the rising prices. As a kid, I used to scan each new Red Book and back then there wasn't a lot of movement year-to-year. I remember getting a good 1916d Mercury dime on my paper route and feeling pretty prosperous at

finding a coin worth \$5, or about ?? % of what I earned each week on my Detroit News route. I found all the Mercury dimes in circulation (yes, I know they're really "Winged Liberty" but after a lifetime of saying "Mercury" it's a hard habit to break) except for the 21d. I bought that in downtown Detroit for 75¢ at Earl Schill's. I was in 7th grade at the time and my dad would have been mad if he knew I'd wasted 75¢ on a XF dime.

Those were the days... but, so are these, and I continue to learn and soak up numismatic things like Celtic coins with stylized engravings of little horses and examining the latest state quarter... or an unusual token.

Sign up a new member. At \$5 we're the best bargain in town... Happy collecting and I hope to see you at the next show.

Next Board Meeting

February 15, 2004

At Oshkosh Coin Show

We Need Your Vote...

Determining who will receive the writer's awards each year is a difficult task. Last year you members voted for the best articles published in NOW News and it worked very well.

A "Vote for the Best" form is attached to your Dues Notice -- please review each of the articles published in this year's NOW News and vote for the 3 articles that you liked best in the whole year. (Do not vote for more than 3). Last year a few ballots were rejected because members voted for one from each issue for total of 4, not just the 3 required.

The purpose of the Writer's Award program is to develop numismatic journalistic talents among members and to publish interesting and informative articles in our newsletter.

The first place cash award of \$100 is donated by South Shore Coin Club; the second place \$50 is donated by Numismatic Research Society of Oshkosh, and the 3rd place \$25 award is donated by the Milwaukee Numismatic Society.

If you have written a coin-related article, why not send it to us -- it may be one of next year's prize winners. To be eligible for the cash awards, you must be a member of NOW. Only one cash prize will be awarded to a writer even though they may have written several great articles.

* * *

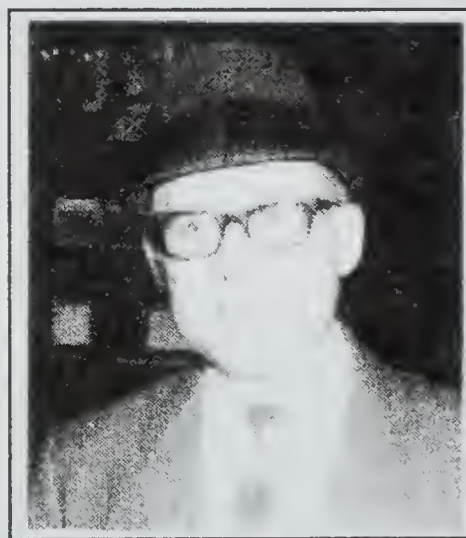


Long-time Green Bay, Wisconsin numismatic activist, James Medd, died on November 3rd at his retirement home in Crossville, TN after a 2-week illness. He had been diagnosed with cancer on October 20th.

Jim joined NOW in 1965 and became a solid rock in the foundation of Numismatists of Wisconsin. He became a member of the NOW board in 1966, and generated numerous leadership innovations, including a concept of a Wisconsin Numismatic Writers Association (WNWA) and a state-wide numismatic grading guideline.

In 1970, Jim was thrust into the office of NOW president when Vice President, Jim Kroepfl moved out of Racine to take a new job in northern Wisconsin. Jim proved to be a fine leader of NOW. In addition to his presidency, he chaired the NOW show held in Green Bay, which was one of the finest and most well-rounded NOW conventions held.

In his life's work as an environmental contractor, Jim traveled extensively throughout the state and was truly an unanointed numismatic ambassador. A driven numismatist, like many 1950-1960 era collectors, he filled Whitman folders with coins found in circulation sold and traded his duplicates for pieces he needed, and created a large holding that at one time included a rare half dime.



In later years, with his coin collections complete, Jim collected Wisconsin civil war and lumber tokens. After his retirement move to Tennessee

(via Texas) he found and reported many new and rare tokens in Tennessee.

In recent years, Jim returned to Wisconsin for many of the NOW shows, never giving up his love for the Badger State. He is survived by his wife, Sheila, in Crossville, Tennessee and his children and grandchildren in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

* * *



Secretary's Musings

by Ron Calkins

Dues are Due -- send them NOW

Dues notices are included with this issue.

Because of bulk mailing weight regulations, everyone, even life members, receive a notice. Please check your label and if you need to renew, why not send in \$5 for your 2004 dues NOW and save us the cost of that second mailing.

George Conrad of Racine has already sent in his 2004 dues -- he doesn't even wait for the notice. Thanks, George.

We don't automatically send everyone new membership cards, however, if you want a new one, let me know.

2004 NOW Show

Ed Rautmann of the Sheboygan Club informs us that plans are already under way for our April 17th spring show. Don't miss this show -- it'll be a good one! Be sure to put it on your calendar now.

NOW Website may be in the works

At our Board meeting in Madison, John Foellmi, Treasurer of the Madison Coin Club, has accepted the responsibility of setting up a web page for NOW.

Thoughts on the Wisconsin Quarter

Here's how to assure that you'll get an Agricultural theme with a cheese and a cow which got 137,745 votes. Governor Doyle may not have taken a position, but according to news releases, he preferred the Early Exploration theme.

The Early Exploration theme received

112,907 votes. This became watered down when a third choice, the Scenic Wisconsin theme entered and got 97,010 votes. The two historic or scenic themes received 209,917 votes combined. But now the choices were three instead of two.

Take out the 3rd choice, Scenic Wisconsin with over 97,000 votes, and I'll bet enough of those votes would have gone to the Early Exploration theme to give the Governor and the members of the Wisconsin Commemorative Quarter Advisory Council the theme they preferred. So 'tis my opinion that allowing a vote for 3 choices instead of 2 resulted in the cow and cheese. You can read more about the quarter on pages 10 & 11.

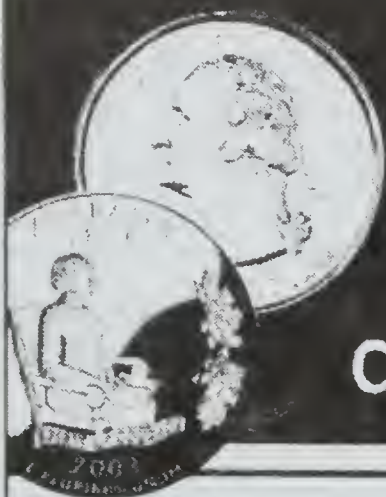
More Stuff...

Our Government spent \$33 million to advertise the new \$20 bill. Some how this seems to be a waste of money to me. I recently got one of the new \$20s and recognized it right away, even without lessons. They really are a pretty banknote.

Elsewhere in this issue I see that the Casinos have already picked up a couple counterfeit new \$20s. They just returned the notes to the customers who will just pass them along to someone else. I guess everyone wins at that casino -- even the counterfeiters.

On November 28th the euro broke through \$1.20 for the first time in its nearly 5-year history, surging amid fears about the U.S. trade and budget deficits in thin post Thanksgiving trading. The 12-country currency hit \$1.2015 in European trading, the highest since it was introduced on January 1, 1999. It was around 98¢ when we visited Europe last fall.





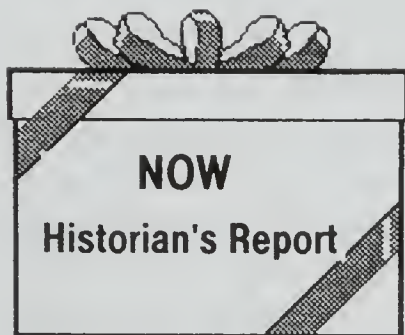
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by Gene Johnson
Historian

The completed and bindered NOW medal collection has been placed in the NOW archives, which are stored at Gary's Coin Shop in Wisconsin Rapids.

Enveloped paper financial records, copies of NOW News and show flyers from 1999 through 2001 were filed at the time. A bound copy of NOW News covering the years 2000-2002 was picked up at lola and will also be filed. Binding was by Krause Publications, via Cliff Mishler.

A photo file that was built during the editorship of Kurt Krueger was also picked up at lola and will be archived with other NOW photos that have been gathered.

I would like to thank NOW Secretary/Treasurer, Ron Calkins, for his careful preservation of paper items relating to each year's conventions, Board of Governors meetings and financial records.

* * *

How Much Cash Does the Fed Trash?

The U.S. Treasury may print money, but the task of destroying old greenbacks falls to the country's 12 Federal Reserve Banks. In 2002, about 8.4 billion bills were shredded.... plucked from the system by machines that defect notes too worn for recirculation. About half of all blade-bound bills were \$1 notes, followed by \$20s, \$5s, \$10s, \$100s and \$50s. (continued on p. 29)



ANA Highlights

"Coins in the Classroom" for Middle School Teachers --

The American Numismatic Society introduced an innovative new course at the ANA Summer Seminar. The "Coins in the Classroom" course is designed specifically to help middle school teachers use coins in their classrooms to augment their curriculum in social studies, mathematics or other related disciplines.

The study of coins provides a link to history, economics, mathematics and technology. By examining why coins are made and how they are used, students gain insights into how societies exist and function.

The course consists of presentations, interactive discussions and workshops directed towards understanding how coins from ancient civilizations, Europe, Asia or the United States can be used to help young minds learn and grow.

No prior experience with coin collecting is necessary. Participants will interact with students from all over the U.S. ANA will work with participating teachers to secure continuing education credits.

ANA is pleased to offer this course over the Christmas break in sunny Clearwater Beach, Florida. ANA will pay expenses for qualified 6th, 7th and 8th grade teachers, including a transportation reimbursement up to \$300.

For more information about the program contact Gail Baker, ANA Director of Education. Phone 719-632-2646, extension 153 or e-mail: education@money.org.



Wisconsin Dells Area Numismatic Group

by Ron Calkins

Last
September,
my wife and I
drove to

Wisconsin Dells to attend a meeting of this new group of collectors. We arrived at the Chula Vista Resort in time for the Social Hour and had an opportunity to talk with old friends, Rollie & Patti Finner and got better acquainted with Joe Kaminski, organizer of this group. Joe is an enthusiastic dealer and collector who conducted an interesting meeting, beginning with an ANA video on marketing and technical grading of coins. He talked about cleaning coins which almost always reduces their value to bullion and he passed good and bad examples among the group. We also viewed an impressive proof set of Chinese Panda American gold. Before the meeting ended, several people became new NOW members.

The group meets the 4th Sunday of each month at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells. There are no dues or fees... just a fun evening for anyone interested in the hobby of collecting coins. For more information, contact Joe Kaminski 608-254-7908.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Tom Casper reported on their September 28th show. After 2 years without having a show (and this was their first 1-day show in

many years), anticipation built as Sunday morning dawned, but all their fears were put to rest as the day unfolded.

A crowd eagerly waited to enter the hall, which remained crowded most of the day. The dealers raved about the excellent crowd and the brisk business they did, and twenty-one cases lined the exhibit tables. Thanks to the efforts of Show Chairman, Tom Dallmann and all the MNS members, this was a great show.

South Shore Coin Club

President, Bruce Benoit reported the highlight of his summer was attending the Canadian Numismatic Association's 50th convention in Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

Bruce participated in the opening ceremonies before taking a historical tour of the city of Windsor, including a visit to Fort Malden, a national historic site located in Amherstburg, Ontario. It was the center of British operations during the War of 1812. At the Serge Laramee' of North American Numismatics auction, he purchased a Magdalen Island token, which will be featured in one of his future exhibits. Bruce said it was difficult searching for deals on the bourse floor because coins were priced in Canadian dollars, so everything seemed overpriced.

After the General Club meeting, exhibit award winners were announced and Bruce won third place in the All Canadian Coin and Tokens Category for his updated Canadian 5-cent piece exhibit and first place in the foreign paper money category for his U.S. \$1 federal Reserve Note exhibit.

Bruce said the highlight of the convention was meeting Canadian author, Jim Charlton, whose lifetime accomplishments in Canadian

numismatics may never be matched. Charlton autographed a \$5 Canadian note to add to Bruce's autographed note collection and he also signed the latest Charlton Standard Catalogue of Canadian Coins (The Canadian Coin Bible), comparable to the U.S. Red Book. Bruce encourages everyone to consider expanding their numismatic interests by attending a convention like this.

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club News

The Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club held their annual coin show on Saturday, August 2nd at the Siren Community Center in Siren, Wis. About 150 people attended, keeping things active for the 10 coin dealers. It was so much fun that both collectors and dealers are already looking forward to next year's show.



The new 2003 wooden nickel features a ruffed grouse done in black ink. It's available for 25¢ plus a self-addressed stamped envelope from Gary Schauls, 2702 150th Street, Luck, WI 54853-3811.

Madison Coin Club

Members will get together on December 8th for their annual Christmas party at the Old Country Buffet. Be sure to visit the Madison Coin Club's new website:
www.madison.com.communities/coin club.

Waukesha Coin Club

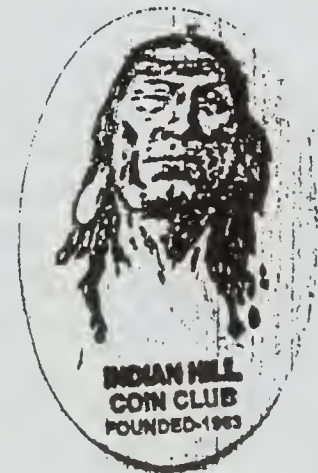
Members are busy planning their 36th annual coin show for Sunday, March 14th. The show will be held at the American Legion Post in Brookfield, Wis. To commemorate the show, a wooden token with a trade value of 5¢ will be given to all who attend. See the Show Calendar for more details on the event.

Indian Hill Coin Club

The Indian Hill Coin Club (Lake County, IL) issued an elongated wooden nickel featuring an "Indian Brave" for its 2003 coin show held October 26th held in Gurnee, IL.

Also issued is a 2x2 commemorating the coin club's 40th anniversary.

Both items are available as a set for \$1 plus a self-addressed stamped envelope To order contact Mike Hanninen, 2400 Horeb Ave., Zion, IL 60099.



* * *

Are you a Collector of Elongated Coins?

If so, you may want to contact Doug Fairbanks for a listing of elongates he has for sale. Phone: 315-469-4682.



Book Nook

From ANA's Bookshelf

"Helpful Hints for Enjoying Coin Collecting" written by Bill Fivaz, is an excellent book for beginning collectors and is a useful refresher course for everyone else. It gives practical advice on grading and selling, coin preservation and more. This 114 page spiral bound book is an essential primer for anyone who wants to collect coins and it can be purchased from ANA for \$19.95 (member price is only \$12.95).

"Coin Collecting for Kids" would make a wonderful Christmas gift for your young collector. This colorful coin album is a great introduction for children ages 6-12 to the hobby. It contains slots for statehood quarters, type sets and a millennium set. It also includes information on the minting process and historical facts. The book lists at \$12.99 and \$10.99 for ANA members.

"Encyclopedia of the Modern Elongated" is a complete and authentic description of modern elongated coins 1960-1978. It is authored by Rosato and sells for \$55 (\$50 for ANA members).

2004 U.S. Coin Digest

Edited by Joel Edler and Dave Harper, this book is a fully illustrated pricing guide with prices for all U.S. coins in up to 11 grades,

error coin section and comprehensive glossary. This spiral bound book sells for \$11.99 (ANA member price is \$9.95)

* * *

More Numismatic Books

Durst Publications of Rockville Centre, NY announced the acquisition of the entire Obol International Book Inventory. This extensive line of reference titles (virtually all relating to Ancient and Medieval Coinage) was published by Obol International over the past 2 decades. Durst Publications stocks approximately 3,000 book titles relating to coins, medals, paper money, stocks, bonds, tokens and other numismatic items.

For a complete listing of their out-of-print publications, contact Sanford Durst, 11 Clinton Avenue Rockville Centre; NY 11570. Phone: 516-766-4444 or FAX 516-766-4520.

* * *

2004 North American Coins & Prices

The new 13th edition of this Guide to U.S., Canadian and Mexican Coins is available from Krause Publications. Collectors can learn or review coin collecting basics from the 13 introductory chapters of this valuable guide, including four new chapters covering these hot collecting topics: hitting the ultra-grade jackpot, American Eagles, the hot buys for 2004 and the ongoing popular state quarters program. More than 45,000 listings are updated and include the latest prices in up to 11 grades of condition, for each coin from the U.S. since colonial times. This 600-page soft-cover book includes 1,500 black & white photos and sells for \$17.99.

To order, call Krause Publications at 1-800-258-0929.



Arkansas Quarter

The Arkansas quarter is the 5th and final quarter of 2003, and the

25th in the 50 State Quarters Program. Arkansas was admitted into the Union on June 15, 1836 and was acquired through the Louisiana Purchase and later became the Arkansas Territory before gaining statehood. Their quarter design bears the image of rice stalks, a diamond and a mallard gracefully flying above a lake.

It is fitting that the "Natural State" (Arkansas' official nickname), chose images of natural resources. Arkansas has an abundance of clear streams, rivers and lakes. In fact, they have more than 600,000 acres of natural lakes.

Arkansas is also known for its sportsmanship and boasts mallard hunting as a main attraction for hunters across the nation. Visitors can search Crater of Diamonds State Park for precious gems, including diamonds. The mine at Crater of Diamonds State Park reportedly is the oldest diamond mine in North America, and the only one in the United States open to the public where visitors get to keep what they find. Visitors can also experience "Rice Fever" in Arkansas... just the way W.H. Fuller did when he grew the first commercially successful rice crop in that state. Soon after, thousands of acres of the Grand Prairie were changed to cultivate rice, and

Arkansas became the leading producer of the grain in the United States.

In January 2001, Governor Mike Huckabee announced the Arkansas Quarter Challenge as a state-wide competition. A 2-week media tour promoting the Challenge resulted in 9,320 entries. After several rounds of elimination, the Governor forwarded 3 concepts to the U.S. Mint and the Mint provided 4 candidate designs based on the concepts to the Governor, from which he chose the natural resources design.

* * *

Wisconsin Quarter

By now all of you coin collectors are aware that we finally have an official design for our Quarter, which will be in circulation late next year.



An earlier vote was held to choose the top three themes that best represented Wisconsin. Those themes were sent to the U.S. Mint, who then turned the project over to their engravers. The engravers worked with Wisconsin's ideas to create drawings that would work on the back of the quarter.

The Citizen Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee and the U.S. Fine Arts Commission reviewed the drawings of the engravers. The Secretary of the Treasury then reviewed and gave approval on the remaining coin designs.

During the week of September 22-26, 347,662 Wisconsin residents voted online for the design they liked best.

The official tally of the public vote was:

Agriculture:	137,745	(39.6%)
Early Exploration	112,907	(\$32.5%)
Scenic Wisconsin	97,010	(\$27.9%)

NOW Board members Cliff Mishler and Leon Saryan served on the Wisconsin Commemorative Quarter Advisory Council. Members of the Advisory Council preferred the Early Exploration theme illustrating an explorer, an American Indian and a canoe. Thirteen Advisory Council members voted for the canoe and exploration theme, 8 voted for the cow and agriculture design and two members did not vote.

According to Leon, the Council removed two of the 5 choices from the online vote in order to provide one design from each of the three themes. Although the two dropped choices were the only two that bore state outlines on them, this was not the reason behind their removal. Coinability was a key factor and the council felt the images, when struck on the quarter, could not reflect the strength of detail of the other 3 designs.

Governor Doyle did not take a position on which design should be selected, but instead forwarded to the Mint the design selected by the public vote -- a cow, a wheel of cheese and an ear of corn.

According to the U.S. Mint, Wisconsin will be the first state to feature an agricultural design on its Commemorative quarter.

The 50 State Quarters Program celebrates the history and heritage of the 50 United States in the order which they ratified the Constitution and joined the Union. Wisconsin will be the last quarter honored in 2004. It will follow the release of Michigan, Florida, Texas and Iowa...all to be released in 2004.



**Coin
Collectors...**

**Get Ready
for More
Changes**

The New Jefferson Nickels

After years with hardly a change, the nickel is getting two new looks next year. Drawing on the enormous popularity of the state quarter program, the U.S. Mint unveiled two new nickels last month in hopes that the new nickel will also lure coin collectors.

The nickels, which mark the 200th anniversaries of the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis & Clark expedition, are the first redesign of the 5¢ piece in 65 years. The two new coins will hit the cash registers next year, and will be followed by new designs in 2005.

The "heads" side of the coin will continue to feature Thomas Jefferson throughout. In 2006 Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's home in Virginia, will return, but the image might be redesigned.

The state quarter program has turned millions of American into coin collectors. The Mint expects to make around 500 million of each nickel design. How many coins are minted depends on the country's over-all demand for the coins. The U.S. Mint is one of the few government agencies that makes more money than it spends.

Beth Deisher, editor of "*Coin World*", a weekly publication for coin collectors and "*Coin Values*" (a new monthly publication aimed at novice collectors) stated a lot of

people are interested in coins and a lot that are traced to the state quarters.

Mint officials are preparing for a run on the current nickels, which might be seen as collector's items and will soon be selling uncirculated coins on their website.

The first of the two new reverses on the nickel will feature a rendition of the reverse of the original Indian Peace Medal commissioned for Lewis and Clark's expedition, bearing the likeness of America's 3rd president on one side, and symbols of peace and friendship on the other. The medals were presented to Native American chiefs and other important leaders as tokens of goodwill at treaty signings and other events.



The second nickel will come out in the fall of 2004 and features an angled side-view of the keelboat with full sail that transported members of the

expedition and their supplies through the rivers of the Louisiana Territory in search of a northwest passage to the Pacific Ocean. Built to specifications of Captain Lewis, the 55-foot keelboat could be sailed, rowed, poled like a raft, or towed from the river bank. The design, by U.S. Mint sculptor/engraver Al Maletsky, shows Captains Lewis & Clark in full uniform in the bow of the keelboat.

The introduction of the coins was delayed this year after Virginia lawmakers in

Washington complained about the removal of Monticello from the coin. Mint officials negotiated with the lawmakers, promising to return Jefferson's home to the coins in 2006.

(ref. USA Today, Wis. State Jnl. & internet)

* * *

Have You Seen The New \$20??

This newly designed currency with subtle background colors and enhanced security features will be in your pocket very soon. Here's what you'll be looking for:

Security Threads -- Look closely for the embedded plastic security thread (visible from both sides). You'll see a tiny flag and the words "USA TWENTY".

Watermark -- Hold the bill up to the light and look for the faint image similar to the portrait. It's part of the paper itself, and you can see it from both sides.

Color-Shifting Ink -- Tilt the bill up and down, and the color-shifting ink in the number "20" in the lower right corner changes from copper to green and back.

The oval frame and lines surrounding Jackson's portrait are gone, along with the frame and lines around the White House scene on the back.

The newly designed bills became available to the public last October, marking the first time in 75 years that America's greenbacks include colors outside the traditional green and black.

Unfortunately, the counterfeiters have already been busy. We've heard about someone who recently went to Ho-Chunk Casino and was told that two of his \$20 bills were counterfeit, but the casino did not

confiscate his bills.

The Fitchburg Police recently sent out a "Business Alert" notifying businesses that the Madison Police arrested two individuals who were passing significant amounts of counterfeit \$20 bills. The Police recovered the equipment that the crooks were using to manufacture the counterfeit bills. The counterfeit serial numbers are: CB03717006C, CJ41098665A, CL65483556C and CL83045833C. Should any of these notes turn up, contact the Fitchburg Police Dept. 608-270-4300 or FAX 608-270-4349.

One thing will never change... the old bills will always be worth just as much as the new and all bills are good for ever.

(ref. Chicago Tribune, Wis. State Journal, internet and Fitchburg Police Dept.)

* * *

Krause's Military Vehicle Collection Sold

(reprinted from Military Vehicles Magazine)



In a combined effort, Army Cars Holland, B.V. and Kevin Kronlund, Inc., recently bought the bulk of the military vehicle collection assembled by Chet Krause. Chet, who was the founder of Krause Publications,

has been an ardent military vehicle fan ever since his days of working the motor pool of the 565th Anti-aircraft Artillery in World War Two. His collection grew to number more than 60 vehicles, including an M4A3 Sherman Medium Tank, M32 tank retriever, and several proto-type 1/4 ton and 1/2 ton trucks.

Army Cars Holland and Kevin Kronlund, Inc. purchased about 50 vehicles of the Krause Collection. Several pieces are destined for reconditioning and inclusion in the Marshall Ground Transportation Museum in Zwynndrect, Holland, including Krause's M6 High Speed Tractor, Bantam Recon Car, and two 60" search lights and power plants. In addition the Military Vehicle Preservation Group (MVPG) of Spooner, Wisconsin, has added several of the former Krause vehicles to its collection, including the M4A3 Sherman. With so few operating Shermans in private hands in the United States, MVPG spokesperson Kevin Kronlund, noted, "The Sherman will stay with the MVPG in Spooner and remain an operating vehicle."

Not all of the vehicles, though, are destined for the collection of Army Cars Holland or the MVPG. Several will be offered for sale in the ensuing months. Anyone interested in obtaining a current inventory should contact Kevin Kronlund at 715-635-9203.

* * *

U.S. Brings Back Hussein on Currency

(Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
submitted by Leon Saryan)

The U.S. controlled Iraq Central Bank is printing new banknotes bearing the likeness of Saddam Hussein, in an effort to overcome a severe shortage of Iraqi dinars and combat fears of a surge in counterfeit cash.

The crisp new 250-dinar bills (now worth less than 20¢ each) were issued because the lack of currency is causing a growing liquidity crisis in the country, in which there is insufficient cash available to meet financial burdens.

Compounding the problem, a new 10,000 dinar note issued just before the war by Hussein's government never won the public's confidence because it was vulnerable to counterfeiting, according the U.S. officials and Iraqi media.

Issuing new 250-dinar bills "seems to be the best solution, even though it does involve printing a currency with Saddam's face on it," said Paul Bremer, the top U.S. administrator in Iraq. Bremer banned the posting of any images or likenesses of the Iraqi leader.

In Washington, a spokesman for the Treasury Department which is involved in the reconstruction effort, said the 250-dinar note was seen as a temporary, short-term measure. No one likes to see Saddam Hussein's face on the currency and at some point that will go -- hopefully it will be sooner, rather than later.

The irony of Americans printing Hussein-emblazoned cash was not lost on Iraqis. "The Americans got rid of the old regime, so why are they printing the same currency?" Since the war, when Iraqi currency traded at roughly 4,000 dinars to the dollar, the dinar has recovered to about 1,400 to the dollar.

* * *

Civil War-Era Steamer Located off Georgia Coast

(ANA's September "Numismatist" included this interesting story; also Wis. State Jnl. 11/30/03)



The S.S. Republic, bound for New Orleans, went down in a hurricane off Savannah, Georgia on October 25, 1865. Her 59 passengers were saved, but 20,000 \$20 gold coins went down with the ship.

On August 16th, 2003, Greg Stemm and John Morris of Odyssey Marine Explorations, Inc. announced that they had located the wreck of the *Republic* in 1,700 feet of water about 100 miles southeast of Savannah Georgia.

Using a robotic vehicle, sonar and magnetometer technology, Odyssey crews had searched the ocean floor for more than a decade. In July, video images showed a rudder, paddle wheel and parts of an engine.

The *Republic* began life in 1853 as a commercial ferry, the *Tennessee*, and in 1862 she was a blockade runner for the Confederacy. After being captured by Union forces, she served the U.S. Navy as the U.S.S. *Tennessee* and the U.S.S. *Mobile*. After the war she was returned to commerce.

Because the wreck is beyond state and federal authority (3 and 24 nautical miles from shore, respectively), Odyssey does not need a permit to begin salvage, but was granted federal "admiralty arrest" of the site. Recovery began in September.

The gold coins in the cargo were intended to help reconstruction of the South. Private gold coin expert and ANA Governor Don Kagin now estimates the precious cargo might be worth as much as \$180 million, with perhaps 30,000 coins involved. If so, it would be the richest salvage of a ship to date. The current record is the \$100 million in gold recovered from the S.S. *Central America*, which sank off the coast of North Carolina in 1857.

* * *

Christmas Club Checks A Piece of Riggs History

This article originally appeared in a 1991 issue of "Paper Money." Riggs National Bank has granted permission to reprint it.

Christmas Clubs

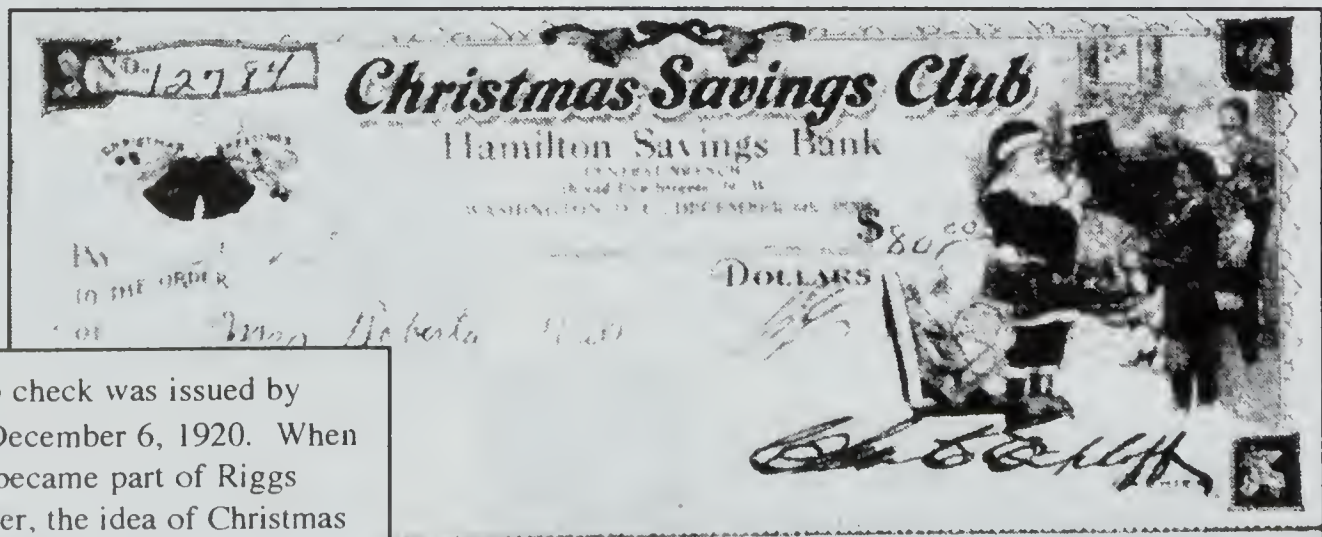
Once upon a time, banks and credit unions actively promoted savings for specific purposes and would even open an account for that purpose. The most common purpose was the Christmas Club.

The idea behind the Christmas Club was for the depositor to open an account and deposit a specific amount each week for 50 weeks (the Club year generally ran from early December to mid-November or from the first of the year to mid-December). At the end of that time, the bank would issue a check for the amount in the account.

It was a relatively painless way to accumulate funds for the Christmas season and it also gained a great deal of favor because the checks issued on these accounts generally were very decorative and carried a Christmas theme as their major design element.



This December 1929 statement stuffer originally printed in black and white with a red Santa Claus, promoted Riggs Christmas Club for the coming year.



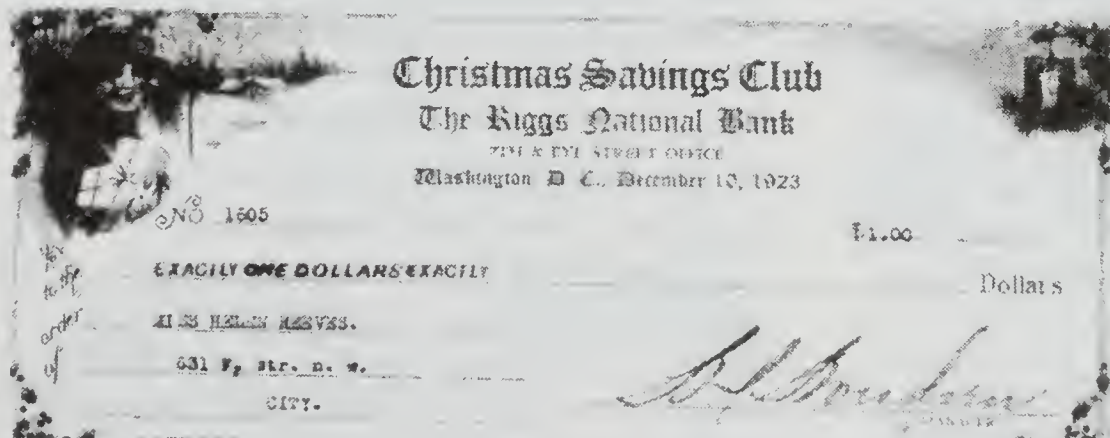
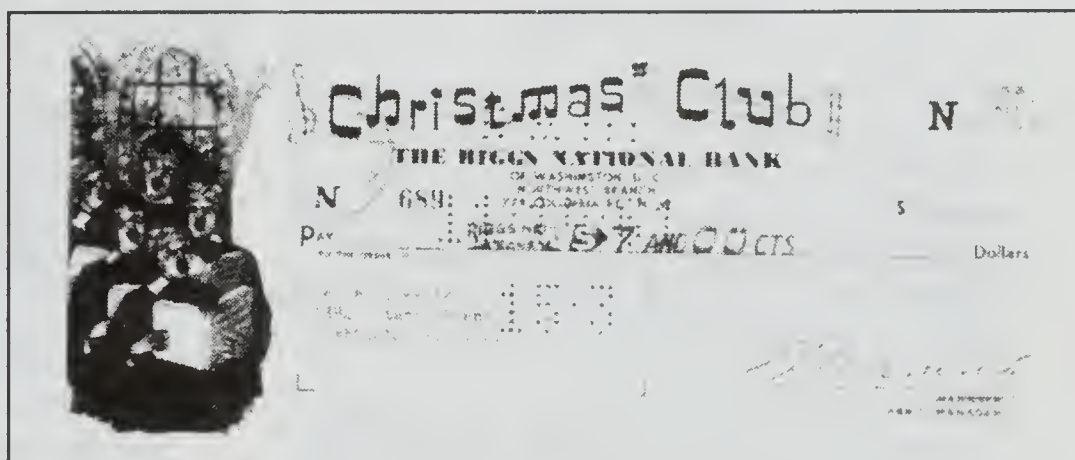
This Christmas Club check was issued by Hamilton Bank on December 6, 1920. When the Hamilton Bank became part of Riggs Bank a few years later, the idea of Christmas Savings Clubs also came to Riggs.

Riggs' first Christmas club check was issued in 1923 by the Seventh and Eye branch, formerly the Hamilton Savings Bank.

The Hamilton Savings Bank had issued checks prior to that time and they bore gorgeous designs. The checks of the early '20s featured a pair of bells on the left and, on the right, Santa Claus bearing a mail sack and presenting a bank savings book to a young man. The checks were printed in red and green ink to carry the Christmas theme a bit further.

Riggs Bank must have liked the idea, because in 1923 they used a colorful design of holly on all four corners, a candle in the upper right, and a girl with wrapped gifts in an outdoor country setting on the upper left.

issuing Christmas Club checks. Riggs continued with its Christmas Club for many years, but there are no samples on hand from 1930 through 1957. In 1958 and 1959, we used a rather attractive check featuring a choir on the left in front of church windows. The "Christmas Club" designation on the check was done on a music staff background, carrying the choir theme still further.



This Christmas Club check design was so popular it was used for several years. The design at the top was colored in red and green ink while the choir at the left wore red robes and the stained glass window at the rear carried a multitude of colors.

Riggs' first Christmas Club check, issued in 1923, looked like this.

Over the next few years the design concept for Christmas Club checks changed somewhat. The next checks we have available are from 1928 and 1929. Although they were printed on green paper and bore Christmas designs, they seem rather plain beside the earlier checks.

Around the same time, Lincoln National Bank (which became part of Riggs in 1960) began

The checks from 1960 and 1961 used the same design, but altered the underprint color from pink to blue. In 1968 the design saw two boys singing with a chiming bell above them.

By the mid-1970s, Christmas Clubs were slowly being phased out by many banks, among them Riggs. The last year Riggs issued Christmas Club checks was 1978, and that check, in red and green ink, featured a reindeer on a wooded slope.

This marked the end of Christmas Club checks at Riggs, but Riggs still carries on the

tradition of a different Christmas Card every year.

Only a few banks have Christmas Clubs today. Collecting these checks and other Christmas Club memorabilia can be a challenging pursuit since most Christmas Club material has been destroyed.

★ ★ ★

Cliff's Office

by Gene Johnson #41

Last summer our family received an invitation that was just too good to pass up. It came from lola, the Coin Collectors Capital, and announced the opening of the new office of Cliff Mishler.

Technically, this is a "Consultant's office" but long ago, Cliff had promised his wife, Sally, that this office would be the repository of the Cliff Mishler accumulated exinomia and curiosities.

We began our sun-filled morning drive that was through a central Wisconsin country side parched by the August drought, finding many trees losing their leaves and the farm corn withered and cobless.

Downtown lola, however, was perky and humming with activity when we arrived at 8:30. For NOW members who haven't been to lola since the NOW convention of 2002, crisp new downtown storefronts have replaced the fire damaged section. Cliff's office at 105 Main Street is the anchor end of the rebuilt section.

Irene and I wandered into an adjacent office looking for Cliff. (His hand-painted 1920 era sign is not hung yet), but we were directed several places down the line where we found a small paper sign on the door announcing

"*Eclectic Pursuits*". My dictionary defines "eclectic" as "made up of selections from various sources", but more realistically in numismatics... it can be called "what I like".

Cliff, always a gracious host, gave Irene and I a piece-by-piece furniture tour of his four room office, which we felt was a life's work dream come true. The furniture mix is designed to showcase Cliff's love of exonumia and oddments. Two large and one smaller store-type display cases (not yet filled) will house oddments... and here is a GEM for you -- a large glass-fronted yarn case of drawers that we measured out as capable of holding 26,000 items in 2x2 holders.

Two desks (one modern, but old looking) and one antique, house the Mishler computers, but the third desk is a "partners" desk... a large 2-sided beauty with extenders on each end making it 10' long! We had never seen one of these in our many years of antiquing. Most of the other furniture was mahogany.

An alcove-type space houses an extending table that rather than having leaves to widen, pulls out from under on the ends, and could nicely handle a NOW Board of Governors meeting (idea??) The "break room", large and unisex restroom, and numismatic/exonumia library, are discretely located at the back of the office complex.

While Cliff's new digs are impressive now, by the time the lola NOW convention rolls around in 2005, this and the nearby Chet Krause spread will be like a little ANA to visit. The do-dads and wall hangings will be in place and "show-and-tell" will be the name of the game.

Oh yeah, be sure to check out the cranberry muffins at the Crystal Cafe... they're great!

C.N. Cotton Indian Trader

This article was written by Jerry Adams, in memory of his "grand-dad" A.T. Cotton.

It was originally published in the September 2002 issue of "Talkin Tokens." We thank NATCA for granting us permission to reprint this article..

* * *



Cotton tokens are fairly common to token collectors. The New Mexico book lists 100-200 known, with estimated values of \$10-\$19. (These were called "seco", that is "dry" by the Indians because of their light weight compared to the silver dollar and the eight real).



C.N. COTTON/ 1407 (stamped into the planchet)
/Gallup, New Mexico, // Good For / \$1.00 / In/
Merchandise at Retail (aluminum round-38mm)

J.J. Curto listed these tokens as number 42 1/2 in his list, reprinted by the ANA as "Indian and Post Trader Tokens, Our

Frontier Coinage". Curto also listed tokens of 50¢, 25¢, 10¢ and 5¢.

The estimated date for these tokens is 1905.

C.N. Cotton, His Early Years

Clinton Neal Cotton was born on April 12, 1859 on a farm near Howard, Ohio, not far from Mt. Vernon. His mother was Mary Neal, and his father was Liberty Leslie Cotton. His educator father was something of a local celebrity known for his amazing memory and ability to add or subtract long strings of numbers in his head with lightening speed. He traveled the surrounding areas of Ohio giving demonstrations of the prodigious memory and calculating abilities.

Unfortunately Liberty Cotton died in 1870 when C.N. was only 11. As many young children of the era, C.N. was forced to leave school and find work to help support the family after his father's death. He found work as a telegraph operator's apprentice. His inherited ability for mental calculations helped him later in life as an Indian trader.

By 1881, when C.N. reached the age of 21, he had saved enough money to buy a train ticket to the west. His mother and brothers and sisters had adequate means of support, and so C.N. boarded the train for New Mexico. One of his first stops was in the town of Las Vegas, New Mexico where the passengers were allowed to go to the local jail to view a notorious outlaw named Dave Rudabaugh. Rudabaugh (one of Billy the Kid's gang) was chained to the floor in the middle of the cell and was viewed by the passengers.

After returning to the train the trip continued and C.N. arrived in Albuquerque. His previous experience as a telegraph

operator made him a valuable commodity, and he soon was working as the telegraph operator at the end of the railroad line, in Guam, N.M. Guam is located about 138 miles west of Albuquerque.

By February 1881, the rail lines had pushed westward another 10 miles to a point near Fort Wingate. Fort Wingate was one of the most important military installations in the area. C.N. moved to the end of the tracks at Fort Wingate, and his office was a boxcar set off the side of the tracks. This boxcar was the telegraph office *and* his living quarters.



C.N. Cotton photo taken about 1882

During the winter, railroad workers found a man's body in the area with a large Newfoundland dog standing watch over the body. The dog

was nearly starved to death. The workers brought the dog back to young C.N. who nursed the dog back to health. They became best friends for many years.

In 1882 C.N. returned to Ohio to wed Miss Mary Alice Crain, who was the daughter of a college professor. The wedding was held in the home of her parents and the married couple left for New Mexico that afternoon. They set up housekeeping in the same boxcar off the side of the tracks that C.N. had called home for months. Their first child, Charles McGugin Cotton, was born in this house/boxcar. Sometime in these years,

while at Wingate or Guam, C.N. met Juan Lorenzo Hubbell. Some stories say Cotton was going to teach Hubbell Morse Code so that Hubbell could get a job with the railroad. Whatever the reason, the two young men became fast friends and remained close personal and business friends for the remainder of their lives.

There is no doubt that J.L. Hubbell influenced Cotton to take up the trade with Indians, as Hubbell had been involved in trading with the Indians since about 1878 near Ganado Lake, Arizona. His stories must have mesmerized Cotton.

Indian Tribes of the Area

Many Indian (Native American) tribes were in this area of western New Mexico and eastern Arizona. Among them were the Navajo, Utes, the Pueblo Indians and Apaches.

The Navajo and Indian Traders

The Navaho Indians were shrewd traders. They also lived in very isolated areas, and had lots of time to seek the best deals on their goods. So with numerous traders around the Navajo reservation, the traders had to be equally shrewd to do business with them. A typical Indian trader might carry stock of flour, sugar, coffee, calico, leather, blankets, tobacco and meat. The Navajo would bring in for trade sheep wool, pelts of goat and sheep, and hand-made blankets. In addition, most Navajo had buttons made of various silver coins. When a Navajo saw something he wanted and had no other items to trade, he would simply cut off the number of coin buttons required to pay for the item.

The Navaho were very adept at sheep and goat husbandry, and the wool shearing business was a large part of their income.

June and July each year brought the shearing of the sheep, and a corresponding increase in trade at the posts.

Indian Trading Posts

The typical Indian trading post was laid out in more or less the same manner. The small trading posts built in the rural areas near reservations were mostly built from whatever materials were at hand -- rock, timber, adobe, etc. Normally there were very few windows, as windows had to be hauled in by freight wagons. Iron rods were sunk into the walls in front of the windows for protection from theft and attacks. As one entered the front door of a trading post, you would find yourself in a smallish "bull-pen" surrounded on three sides by high counters with no pass through door. The bull-pen was normally provided with a wood stove, but no benches or chairs. The counter on three sides was normally a foot higher than typical counters found in the rest of the world, in order to keep the trader safe from the client Indians. Behind the counter were shelves on the wall, to the ceiling. These shelves were loaded with supplies. Hooks hung from the ceilings with more supplies of all sorts hanging from the hooks. Oil lanterns, frying pans, tin pots, kettles, coils of rope, bridles, saddles, and all sorts of items what would make the Navajo of the day wish to become "a good consumer."

The Navajo traded wool, sheep, cattle, hides, corn and other items with the traders. After the wool was weighed or the sheep counted, the deal was closed and the trader paid with trading tokens and merchandise. Later the Navajo bought goods with these tokens.

Inside the trading post in the "bullpen" the trader displayed all the groceries and dry

goods he had for sale. Here the Navajo could buy whatever was needed... cloth, sugar, flour, coffee, utensils, kerosene lamps and even sewing machines. The customer would point to the items they wanted and items were bought one at a time after each was examined closely and duly considered. Buying continued as long as the trading tokens lasted. Trading was not a thing to be hurried. A trip to the trading post was a major event which no family member passed up. Much socializing went on in the bullpen during the transactions and a trading trip often lasted several days.

Each trader was expected to have free tobacco for the Indians in the bullpen of the post. A small wooden box was nailed to the counter top and loose tobacco was put into this box. One trader even put nails pointing upward into the box to keep the grabs for the tobacco small.

1885 - Partners

About 1884 or 1885, C.N. Cotton bought half interest in J.L. Hubbell's trading post at Ganado, Arizona (Ganado was also known as Pueblo Colorado, AZ). Hubbell was the sheriff of Apache County, and he relied on Cotton to run the day-to-day business of the Ganado post at this time. Hubbell was 5 years older than Cotton and since he had been in the business there first, the business was called "Hubbell and Cotton". Letters were sent to the Internal Revenue Service in Prescott notifying them of Cotton's half interest. Cotton renewed his license to trade at Ganado regularly up to October 1900. Amazingly, in all his applications, Cotton listed his half partner Juan Lorenzo Hubbell as his clerk.

Cotton soon learned the business of Indian trading, which required him to be able to

communicate business clearly through the postal mail, ordering huge quantities of goods from central New Mexico. He also learned the Navajo language, as it was required to do day-to-day business with the Navaho Indians.

SHIPPING ORDER		Gallup, N. M.,	191
Delivered by C. N. Cotton Company			
IN APPARENT GOOD ORDER THE ARTICLES NAMED BELOW			
For	<i>J. L. Hubbell</i>		
At	<i>Esanado</i>		
MELLISHO COMPANY DMT			

Cotton Company Shipping Order to Lorenzo Hubbell

highest being the Navaho rugs, the middle being the more fluffy saddle blankets and the bottom being the shoulder blankets.

Successful in this marketing, Cotton briefly returned to the direct trade with the Indians by buying out the Round Rock Trading Post of S.E. Aldrich about 1911. He also acquired a trading post at Zuni and part interest in the Lorenzo Hubbell store at Chinle from 1917 through 1923.

It's said that Cotton and J.L. Hubbell made such good partners because their skills and demeanor complimented one another. Hubbell was a gentleman who was hospitable in the way of a Spanish *Don*. Cotton, on the other hand, was also a gentleman and honest as one could find, but he was also a born businessman. Cotton insisted that every deal bring a profit and that all was done right, fair and honestly.

Marketing Blankets

At some point in time, either Cotton or someone had the idea of marketing the woven Indian blankets as "rugs" for the floor. Cotton convinced the Indians to weave large size, thick rugs. One of these made in 1885 measured 12 feet by 18 feet 2 inches. A bit large for a blanket. In February of 1888, Cotton wrote that he had over 100 heavy coarse Navajo blankets in stock, and he offered them for sale at 35¢ per pound.

C.N. Cotton was the first person in the Indian trade to make a big effort to market the Indian rugs to the outside world. About 1897 he issued the first catalog of Indian rugs and used the circulars to market the rugs back east and in any markets that came to mind.



A full load! (date unknown)

1894 -- Gallup, NM

Gallup, New Mexico was located near the old Fort Wingate, and in the center of a large area of Indian reservations, spread over western New Mexico and eastern Arizona. C.N. Cotton founded a wholesale establishment called "C.N. Cotton Company" in Gallup, NM after the dissolving of partnership with Hubbell in 1894.

C. N. COTTON CO.

INCORPORATED
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
INDIAN TRADER'S SUPPLIES AND NAVAJO BLANKETS.
WOOL, HIDES, GOAT SKINS, SHEEP PELTS.

GALLUP, N. M.,

Jan, 1, 11.

SOLD TO
Mr. J. D. Hubbell.
Ganado, Arizona.

TERMS:

SUBJECT TO HUBBELL'S, IS NOTED WITH US.
INTEREST AT THE RATE OF 12 PER CENT AFTER MARCH 1.

PAIDABLE IN
NEW YORK BY CHECK.

ALL REGULATIONS MUST BE MADE ON RECEIPT OF GOODS.

Just when the sale of the Hubbell Trading Post from C.N. Cotton back to Juan Lorenzo Hubbell was consummated is uncertain.

At the time, Gallup NM was just realizing its amazing position as the geographical hub of a large number of Indian reservations to the west, east, north and south. Cotton used his great knowledge of Indian preferences to acquire the exclusive regional distributorship of two important items needed for trade with the Indians: Arbuckle's Coffee and Pendelton Blankets. To the Navaho Indians, these were the only acceptable brands of coffee and blankets. Therefore, most of the outlying Indian trading posts ordered all the Arbuckle's Coffee and Pendleton blankets from Cotton. As an example of how the pricing structures worked, Cotton paid the Arbuckle's distributor \$7 for a case of coffee, and would sell the case to an outlying Indian trading post for \$8 per case, and the smaller trading post would sell the coffee to the Navajo for \$10 per case.

Navaho Silver

Prior to 1900, most Navajo silver work was very heavy and crude. Most was so rough and heavy that only the Navajo liked it. Cotton brought in a Mexican silversmith named Naakai Daadil and had the silver craft taught to some of the Navajo silver workers. Cotton also ordered large quantities of silver coins from the bank in Albuquerque, most

likely for the Navajo silversmiths. Mexican silver dollars were the preferred coin for melting and making into jewelry, as they were harder than U.S. silver coins and also cheaper.

At the time, Cotton also sold some old Navajo pots that had been dug in the ruins of the pueblos. This would be frowned on today, but then was thought of as not offensive at all. Many odd Navajo trinkets were labeled as "curios".

Prosperity

Government contracts provided another large part of Cotton's business, his firm being awarded the contracts to provide feed, oats and salt to the Navajo, Hopi and Zuni in 1905, to the tune of \$156,261. In 1906 Cotton successfully landed government contracts for supplying feed and oats to Indian schools in Albuquerque and Santa Fe, New Mexico for \$207,900. So the government contracts were a major part of his business. By 1914 Cotton filed an amendment to his company charter, increasing his firm's capital stock from \$100,000 to \$500,000. The following year his firm had almost outgrown the building they occupied adjacent to the railroad and directly in the center of Gallup. He contracted the start of construction on a new addition to the building that would make it the largest business house in the southwest.

Civic Duty and Promotion

Cotton served one term as Mayor of the city of Gallup during the first World War. Cotton also had a home in Los Angeles, and often spent the winter months there. While in Los

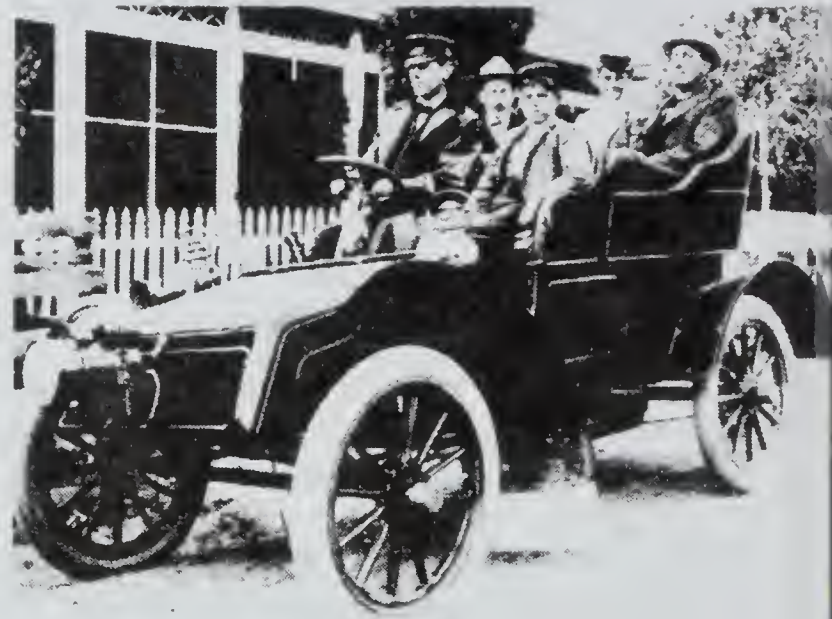
Angeles in the winter of 1913, he attended a meeting of the executive committee of the National Highway Association. The group was planning for a new transcontinental automobile highway and they had pretty much decided on a path from Los Angeles all the way to Williams, Arizona. Cotton saw an opportunity and spoke boastfully of the benefits of the highway passing through the city of Gallup, NM. Of course, this highway was constructed and was named Route 66.

One of C.N. Cotton's unusual civic habits was buying long strings of tickets to the theater and handing them out to children on the street. With all the tickets handed out, Cotton would join the children in the theater to enjoy the show, all the while smoking his long black cigars in disregard to the "no smoking" signs posted in the theater.

C.N. Cotton -- the Man

Cotton was called '*Beesh Baghoo*' I - by the Indians, which means "*metal teeth*" for the large number of metal crowns and inlays in his teeth. He was a chain smoker of "El Araby" cigars, and was described by those close to him as a hearty fellow, tall and rawboned. Cotton was a man who was violently opposed to any alcoholic beverages. He never drank whiskey or beer, and he always was opposed to its use by anyone. He made life miserable for saloon keepers in Gallup when he was elected mayor in 1916.

Cotton bought the first automobile in all of the northwestern New Mexico, a 1904 Packard. His other early cars included a "Pope Toledo" and a "Stanley Steamer". He later drove only Packards, and in 1930 had two... a yellow sports coupe for himself and a blue 7-passenger sedan for his daughter.



Mr. & Mrs. Cotton are in the rear seat of Cotton's and Gallup's first automobile.

Cotton's home in Gallup was at 406 West Aztec Street. The home had started as a 5-room adobe house in 1888. It was enlarged and improved many times, and in 1907, it was claimed to have the first indoor bathroom in Gallup. Cotton hired labor to run a sewer line to the Puerco River which involved running the 8" line under the Santa Fe tracks, for which he gained permission from the railroad. Other improvements to the house included a bowling alley, many bedrooms and a huge parlor. The house became "U" shaped after many additions and had an adobe wall surrounding the house, in the manner of Mexican villas.

Mrs. Cotton (Mary Alice) became ill in 1919 and went to the Mayo Clinic for treatment. After returning home, she died on December 12, 1919. After her death, Cotton hosted large chili dinners for his office staff every month. He would regale his dinner guests with all kinds of wild stories about the early days of his trading, and the olden days of Gallup.

Another Use of the Tokens

In 1905, Cotton decided that he could help the Indians and himself by providing laborers for the railroad. He secured about 40 Indians to work for the Santa Fe railroad as section men. They were paid directly by the railroad at the rate of \$1 per day.

Arrangements were underway for Cotton to provide up to 600 Navajo Indians to work as an "extra gang" at the rate of \$1.25 per day. Cotton issued the Indian railroad workers metal tokens between paydays, that were good only in his stores. This could very well be the typical aluminum tokens from the Cotton store that we see today. If so, they were used by the Navajo railroad workers in 1905, as credit until payday and redeemable at the Cotton stores.

1930 Winding Down

In 1930 Cotton began to sell off some of his assets, starting his retirement. He sold the large wholesale house in Gallup to Gross-Kelly and Company. The C.N. Cotton Company was unincorporated in 1932. He did maintain his blanket room at the company, and kept many of his blankets that were the pride of his collection. He had what was considered the largest and finest collection of Navajo blankets in the world. By 1934, his health was failing and he ceased all trading. By 1935 his condition worsened, and for 3 months he was seriously ill. C.N. Cotton died at 3:07 a.m. on Saturday, September 20, 1936 in his beloved adobe home in Gallup.

"We are walking in the footsteps of those who've gone before"

Token Observations by Jerry Adams

Since acquiring a number of the C.N. Cotton tokens for study, I have observed some interesting peculiarities about them. Some are counter stamped with a punch, presumably an Indian (possibly Zuni or Navajo) silver worker's punch.

The next observation requires a brief explanation of die alignment terms on coins and tokens. Many tokens have no particular die alignment from obverse to reverse. Most were completely random. However, coins and medals in the modern age normally have one of two die alignments -- "coin turn" alignment, or "medal turn" alignment. United States coins have "coin turn" alignment. In "coin turn" alignment, the top of the obverse is adjacent to the bottom of the reverse. In "medal turn", the top of the obverse is adjacent to the top of the reverse.

All of the dollar-size C.N. Cotton tokens I have inspected have one or the other die alignment; the dies do not appear to be randomly rotated. One token I have had in my collection since 1977, has a "medal turn" die arrangement. All the remaining tokens I have acquired in recent years have a "coin turn" die arrangement.

The reverse of the token plainly states "at retail" indicating that the tokens were most likely struck after Cotton entered the wholesale business in addition to his retail trader business. Interesting details from the tokens include the use of serif lettering on the words "good for" on the reverse and the sloped ends of the strokes on the C's of C.N. Cotton. One small possible defect noted on all the tokens examined is the noticeably shortened right foot of the vertical stroke of the letter R in "good for" on the reverse.

My step-grandfather's name was Arthur Theo Cotton (1896-1965). Everyone called him "A.T." and I called him "grand-dad." Physically he was a large white haired man, known to all as gentle and kind. He served his country in World War One in the U.S. Army. I have tried for years to tie his family to the Cotton family in Ohio and New Mexico, although the chances of this are slim since Cotton is a fairly common name. Regardless of this, I always think of him when I handle one of the C.N. Cotton tokens.

* * *

A Five-Diamond Medal

by Tom Casper #982

Gold medals are always scarce as indicated by the dearth of them in my collection, so when I came across this one, I knew I had to delve into the story behind it.



Kohler Medal Obverse

The tiny village of Kohler (population 1,800) is close to the shores of Lake Michigan and immediately west of Sheboygan. It has one major industry, that of Kohler Company. When most Wisconsinites hear about the Kohler Company, they think of the American Club, the only 5-diamond resort hotel in the midwest. If you are a golfer, you probably imagine hitting the links on two of their golf courses at Blackwolf Run; the River Course or the Meadow Valley's Course.

But when a numismatist hears the name of the Kohler Company, they probably think of the elegant, solid gold medal they once issued. The story began in 1873 when John

Michael Kohler purchased the Sheboygan Union Iron and Steel Foundry. In 1883 Kohler took a product called the horse trough/hog scalding heated it to 1,700 degrees and sprinkled on some enamel powder. He said that when it is furnished with four legs, it would serve as a bath tub. It was the beginning of his plumbing business.

The company evolved into four divisions with offices worldwide, Kitchen and Bath Group; Power Systems Group which produce engines and generators; (Admiral Richland E. Byrd took Kohler generators on his expedition to the Antarctic). Interiors Group producing exquisite furniture; and Hospitality and Real Estate Group which includes the American Club, the golf courses, Water Spa Stables and the Kohler Design Center.

John Paulding designed the official Kohler emblem, as shown on the accompanying medal, for use by the village of Kohler. In 1919 the village presented the emblem to the Kohler Company as a symbol of the strong bond between the village and company. It continues to be used by Kohler Company in its advertising and literature.

The obverse pictures a foundry man holding a long handled ladle used to pour molten metal. The medal is looped with the reverse blank for engraving. It weighs 30.2 grams and measures 36mm. 14K is stamped on the bottom of its polished edge.

Kohler's 25-year employees are inducted into the Quarter Century Club. They are offered a choice of engraved items including wrist and pocket watches. It was the gold Hamilton pocket watch, which had this gold medal at the end of the watch chain to serve as a fob. The medals were first struck and issued in 1924. In the late 1960's they changed the metal content to brass.

Today, everyone joining the Quarter Century Club receives one on a neck chain. Over the years the medals have been made by a number of companies including Robbins and Jostens and currently they are being cast by Masters of Designs.

The reverse of this medal is engraved to Theo. C. Wieglerling. Mr. Wieglerling of Sheboygan, joined the Quarter Century Club in 1965. He retired in 1976 after 36 years of faithful service and passed away in 1980.



Kohler Medal Reverse

The Kohler Company celebrated its centennial in 1973 by issuing a paperweight medal. It is silver plated, the same diameter and obverse design as the gold medal. The reverse reads "Kohler, 100, Bold Craftsmen Since 1873". It is encased in a block of lucite 2-3/4" x 2-3/4" with a black base.

The motto on the medal is as true today as when it was first made. *"He who toils here hath set his mark"*. The words set forth the belief of that community that they are fashioned by their standards and that their character will leave an indelible impression upon the work they do.



Great Lakes Fishing Tokens

by Gene Johnson
#41



Otto Kuehn Co.
Bayfield, Wis. Token

One of the real "uppers" about living in Wisconsin is water. Our often dammed, hard-working rivers, rocky streams, and a multitude of inland lakes are a joy, but Wisconsin is also privileged to touch on two of the five "Great Lakes" -- Lake Michigan and Lake Superior.

Having said this, we must admit that we, as a state, have in the last century dealt a series of hammer blows to these two nearby giant fresh water masses. One hundred years of poor long-term planning, and multi miss management has made shambles of the freshwater fishery that once many people felt could feed the entire nation indefinitely.

Numismatically (or exonumismatically) speaking, Wisconsin's proximity to Lake Michigan and Lake Superior has engendered several interesting tokens that deal directly or indirectly with these poorly managed and endangered bodies of water.

Historically, the tons and tons of harvest of just Lake Michigan alone are almost beyond belief, like the pine forests of the Badger State.

The lake was considered inexhaustible, but like the pine forest, in each case, it took less than 100 years to destroy the entity.

The commercial fisheries of both lakes were in place by about 1850, but in an era of small wooden boats, didn't get into huge harvests

until the 1880s, when fresh water fishing technology moved away from the shallows into the deeper waters.

Steam, and later gasoline powered steel hulled vessels, with new and more modern netting and power driven winches, then broadened the primary catch, which was lake trout.

Tokens representing Great Lakes fishing generally fall into three main categories, that of processing "counters" from the commercial firms, charter boat tokens, and the fish shanty tokens of the Smith Brothers Company of Port Washington.

The processing tokens were piece work markers used to record the number of boxes or baskets of fish cleaned and packed at shore side factories. At day's end, the tokens were counted, and the employee's pay measured by the number of baskets or boxes packed.

Used extensively in Bayfield, Wisconsin, on Lake Superior, several tokens are dated to the years of use, 1918 through 1926.



prowess, plus putting in a pitch for the charter boat operator.

"On Ogden Hamachek's Charter Boat" token

The whimsical charter boat tokens are "brag" souvenirs expounding the fisherman's



These souvenirs, along with photographs of the fisherman and his/her catch were nice remembrances of the charter trip.

The Smith Brothers operation from Port Washington was in direct competition with big fish factories in the state of Michigan, and in itself was a large operation using several fishing boats.

The Fish Shanty at Port Washington where the token shown was used, started out as a twelve stool shanty in the 1930s, then expanded several times into a restaurant complex, before burning down in 1953. It was replaced by a bigger restaurant, that could seat over 300 eaters.



Smith Bros.
Fish Shanty token
Port Washington, Wis.

The western Great Lakes commercial fishing industry declined dramatically in the 1950s after ocean going ships infested the Great Lakes with the lamprey eel via the Saint Lawrence Seaway, decimating the huge lake trout population, and more recently ocean vessels have brought the troublesome Zebra Mussel to the Great Lakes, from where it has spread to the inland lakes of Wisconsin.

The competition on Lake Superior for the fish harvest was spirited. Both Otto Kuehn and Booth Fisheries sent boats out daily to pick up the fish harvest directly from the fishing tugs at work in the deep waters of Superior.

About a dozen different fish packing tokens from Bayfield Wisconsin are known. The most common are part of a small hoard of Otto Kuehn tokens

with various basket numbers that turned up in the year 2002. Interestingly, two older Bayfield factory tokens refer to herring packing, a seldom mentioned Great Lake harvest fish.



reverse of the Otto Kuehn Co.
Token

Sport fishing on Lake Michigan in the 1950s declined dramatically. Between commercial over fishing and the predatory lamprey eel, there was little to harvest other than yellow perch and smelt sized alewife, another ocean spawned curse.

In the 1960 era, with few lake trout to balance the ocean Alewife population, the beaches of Lake Michigan became a stinking horror as tons of Alewife died and washed up on shore. The Alewife, like the Lamprey eel and Zebra mussel, came to the midwest via the Saint Lawrence seaway and Welland Canal. By this time, the obvious pollution of Lake Erie fired up a movement to clean up the Great Lakes, spawning a new era of heavy handed but necessary state and federal regulations.

Environmental law changes that were begun at this time, and the clean-up of entry waters, a source of DDT and PCB pollution, is still continuing today, and while several species of lake fish have been restricted for human consumption, this two-phase program seems to be having a positive effect on the lakes.

Key to the overall fisheries was the suppression of the lamprey eel. Electric wires were strung across the Wisconsin streams where the lamprey spawned, and this deterrent, along with the development of

a selective poison, TFM, reduced the eel population an estimated 80 to 90 percent.

About 1970, coho and chinook salmon were introduced into Lake Michigan and soon after, sport fishing on this giant body of water was restored, creating the Great Lake salmon sport fisherman. Fishermen followed with interest the 1970s Great Lakes stocking programs, and saw that the salmon flourished. Within 10 years, sport fishing had become a multi-million dollar Wisconsin industry.

Most of the Wisconsin charter boats are small, accommodating only 4 to 6 persons, while providing all the fishing equipment, and sometimes food amenities. This then is a trendy and expensive experience.

Sheboygan leads the pack with over 50 charter boats, but the pay-for-fishing industry on Lake Michigan runs all the way from the Wisconsin state line on the south, to the northern Michigan border. The season is from May through the end of September.

In an interesting little Great Lakes sidelight, the Bodine Fish Company of Bayfield, which had succeeded the Booth Fisheries on Lake Superior,



Booth Fisheries Co. / 1922/
Bayfield, Wis.

was hauled into court some years ago for purchasing fish speared by the Ojibwa (Chippewa) tribe of aborigines (often called "Indians"). These "sport" fishermen speared fish in the shallows at night, using powerful spotlights while exercising their so called "treaty rights."



Mexico Silver Butterfly Medal

This medal was struck by the Casa de Moneda de Mexico in conjunction with the 96th Anniversary Convention of the American Numismatic Association, which was held in Atlanta, Georgia in 1987.

Limited to 2,000 pieces worldwide, each piece was individually numbered on the edge and weighed in at 5 ounces of .999 silver. The main medal is 65 millimeters in diameter and five millimeters thick, and is struck to proof specifications.

The obverse of the medal shows the migratory path of the Monarch Butterflies, starting just north of the U.S. border with Canada, and continuing through the United States to Mexico. As recently as 1975, no one knew where the Monarchs vanished to in the winter. Then, in 1975, their congregating area was discovered at an altitude of 9,000 feet above sea level in Mexico's Sierra Madre Mountains. How these beautiful, fragile creatures can find their way (just once), across prairies, deserts, mountains, valleys and cities to one small pinpoint on the map in Mexico, is one of nature's great mysteries. Once there, they feed on flower nectar and water; then they mate and depart at speeds ranging from 10 to 30 miles per hour.

* * *

Legend of the Christmas Butterfly

On a cold Christmas Eve a long time ago, a small child was admiring her Christmas tree. The fragrant tree had no ornaments, yet she was thankful her poor family had been given one to celebrate the holiday. She had fashioned a small star from scraps of paper to adorn the very tip of the tree. Unbeknownst to her, tiny cocoons hid among the feathery branches and when the child went to sleep that night, magical things began to happen. In the warm surroundings the cocoons awoke to reveal their bodies of crystal and wings of gold. Hundreds of butterflies emerged and fluttered with their shimmering wings landing on the branches. The child awoke to this surprising sight with giggles of joy.



This reminds us that when we are thankful for what we have, we will be blessed even more!

* * *

continued from p. 6

How Much Cash Does the Fed Trash?

After the tender hits the blender, the resulting confetti is shipped to landfills, recycled into stationery products or packaged and provided as souvenirs to tourists of Federal Reserve Banks.





Coin Club Meetings

Antioch IL Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 3rd Monday of each month at State Bank of the Lakes, 440 W. Lake St., Antioch, IL 60002. Contact JoAnne Kriens (847-395-4738).

Baraboo Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 p.m. the 2nd Sunday at the Masonic Lodge in Baraboo. Contact Tim Quinn, P.O. Box 302, Baraboo, WI 53913. (608-253-6460).

Barron County Coin Club

Meets at 8:00 p.m. the 2nd Thursday of each month at the School Administration Bldg., 700 Augusta Street, Rice Lake. Contact Susan Peterson, Barron County Coin Club, 119 E. Freeman St., Rice Lake, WI 54868.

Cedarburg Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 the 2nd Thursday at the Cedarburg Public Library, W63 N583 Hanover St., Cedarburg.

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

Meets the 3rd Thursday (April - October). 7:00 traders; 8:00 business meeting at the Burnett County Sr. Citizens Center, 24054 State Rd. 35/70 Siren. Contact Gary Schauls (715-472-2002).

Fond du Lac Coin Club

Meets the 2nd Tuesday (May thru Sept.) at the Senior Center, East 2nd Street in Fond du Lac. Contact Fond du Lac Coin Club, PO Box 952, Fond du Lac, WI 54935.

Fox Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at Prime Time Club, 11150 Valley Road, Menasha, WI.

Kenosha Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st Thursday of each month (except July & August) at 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha.

Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Silverbrook Middle School, 120 N. Silverbrook Drive in West Bend. Youth meeting at 6:30.

Lake County Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st Tuesday at the In-Laws Restaurant, 720 Milwaukee Ave., Gurnee, IL.

Madison Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 2nd Monday of each month in Zimbrick Buick Community meeting room. Contact Tom Galway (608-238-1722).

Manitowoc Coin Club

No regular monthly meetings; they do have a show in February each year. Contact Al Hrudka.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:30 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Mayfair Mall Community Room, 2500 N. Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa (use entrance #2 on east side of mall).

Nicolet Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at Stein Supper Club, 126 S. Adams in Green Bay.

Racine Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday at the Castlewood Restaurant in Racine. Contact George Conrad (266-634-0833).

Sheboygan Coin Club

Meets every other Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at Maple Lanes, 3107 S. Business Dr., in Sheboygan. Contact Sheboygan Coin Club, P.O. Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

South Shore Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. Roman's Church Annex, 20th & Bolivar, Milwaukee.

Waukesha Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Waukesha Salvation Army offices at 445 Madison St., Waukesha. Contact Forrest Schumacher, Waukesha Coin Club, 1912 Laura Lane, Waukesha, 53186. Phone: 262-524-3227.

Wisconsin Dells Area Numismatic Group

Meets the 4th Sunday of each month at Chula Vista Resort, Wis. Dells. 6:30 social hour; 7:00 presentation. Contact Joe Kaminski 608-254-7908.

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Lakeview Center, 1000 Lakeview Drive, Wausau. Club Contact: Thad Streeter (715-355-5437)



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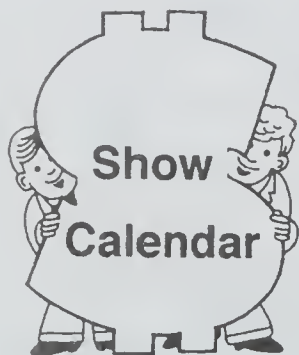
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NOW Secretary/Treasurer, P.O. Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560



Please send information on your upcoming show to the NOW News Editor, P.O. Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Include name of club, location of show, dates, hours, number of tables and your show/bourse chairman's name, address and phone.

December 14, 2003 - Eau Claire

Eau Claire Christmas Coin Show, Holiday Inn, 2703 Craig Rd., 20 tables. Ph: 715-835-0169 Roy Crowell, PO Box 1591, Eau Claire, WI 54702.

December 20, 2003 - Rothschild

Rochschild Coin & Stamp Fair, Cedar Creek Factory Stores, Bus. Hwy 51, exit 185. Ph. 920-687-9077. Dave Carney, PO Box 55, Kimberly, WI 54136.

February 8, 2004 - Manitowoc

Manitowoc Annual Coin Shows at the Club Bil-Mar. Contact Al Hrudka.

February 8, 2004 - Dubuque, IA

Tri State 2nd Annual Coin Show at the Colts Center, 1101 Central Ave., Dubuque, IA. Hours: 9-3 pm. 40 tables. Contact Lee Roe, Hill Top Coins Phone 563-352-3517.

February 15, 2004 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 21st annual coin show. Contact Numismatic Research Society, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

February 26-29, 2004 - Rosemont, IL

10th Annual Chicago Paper Money Expo at Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Rd., Rosemont. Phone: Kevin Foley 414-421-3484.

February 27-29, 2004 - Lakeland, FL

Collectorama Show held at Lakeland Center, 700 W. Lemon, Lakeland, FL. Visit their website at hometown.aol.com/CollectoramaShow.

February 29, 2004 - Franksville

Racine Numismatic Society's 66th Annual Coin Show, held at South Hills Country Club, 3047 Hwy. 94, East Frontage Rd., Franksville. 40 dealer tables; Bourse Chm. Jerry Binsfeld, 6040 39th Ave. Suite 7, Kenosha, WI 53142. Ph. 262-657-4653 (day) or 262-654-6272 (eve.)

March 12-14, 2004 - Baltimore MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention. Ph: Edward Kuszmar 561-392-8551. website: hometown.aol.com/BaltimoreCoinShow.

March 14, 2004 - Brookfield, WI

Waukesha Coin Club's 35th Annual Coin Show at American Legion Hall., 3245 N. 124th Street, Brookfield, WI. Hours: 9-5 pm. Ph: 262-542-5990.

March 21, 2004 - Madison

Madison Coin Club's 72nd Anniversary Show at Sheraton Madison Hotel, 706 John Nolen Ave., Madison, WI. Hours 7:30 dealer setup; 9-4:30 public. Bourse Chm. John Foellmi, 5421 Camden Rd., Madison, WI 53716. Ph. 608-221-6670 or e-mail jfoellmi@hotmail.com.

March 26-28, 2004 - ANA

National Money Show at Oregon Convention Center, 777 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Portland, OR. Contact ANA Convention Dept. Ph: 719-632-2646.

April 1-3, 2004 - Milwaukee

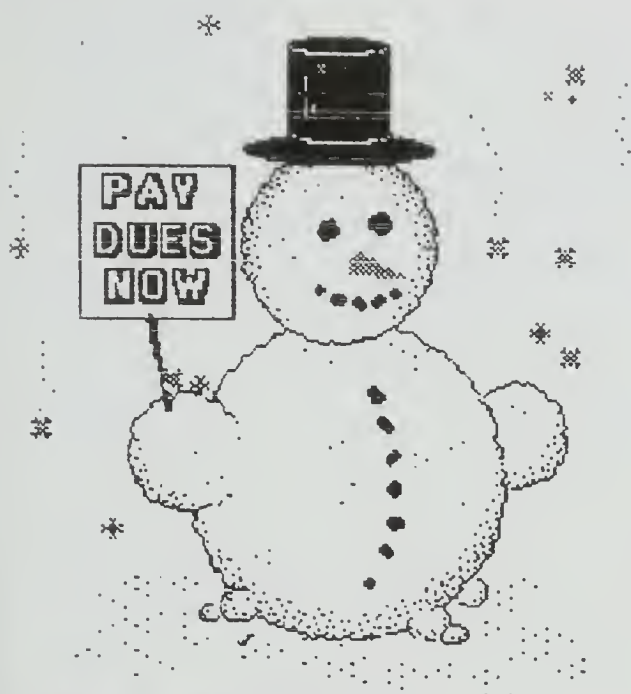
South Shore Coin Show at the Sheraton Four Point Hotel, 4747 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: Thur. 3-8 pm; Fri. 10-6 pm & Sat. 10-4 pm. Contact Annette Tramte, 2368 S. 59th St., West Allis, WI 53219. Phone 414-541-7028.

April 4, 2004 - Appleton

Fox Valley Coin Club's 49th Annual Spring Show at the Holiday Inn, Corner Hwy 41 & West College Ave., Appleton. Hours 9-4 p.m. 40 dealer tables; Show Chm. James Bayer, PO Box 1981, Appleton, WI 54912-1981. Phone 920-739-1089.

April 17, 2004 - NOW

Numismatists of Wisconsin's 44th Anniversary Coin Show hosted by the Sheboygan Coin Club will be held at the Sheboygan Armory, 516 Broughton Drive, Sheboygan. 50 dealer tables. Chm. Ed Rautmann, P.O. Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53082. Ph. 920-452-6359.



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Send in your dues NOW to ensure that you will receive the Spring issue of
NOW News (and to save us the cost of a second mailing).

VOTE for the Best

Each year the articles published in NOW News are voted on and winners receive cash awards donated by the South Shore Coin Club, the Numismatic Research Society, and the Milwaukee Numismatic Society. Please re-read each article and vote for your favorites.

(Vote for only 3 for the whole year)

Spring 2003

- ☐ The Horse That Never Was 20
- ☐ Silver Dollar Mint 21-22
- ☐ The Lion of LaCrosse 23-25

Summer 2003

- ☐ A Visit with NOW Number One 16-17
- ☐ Staff Sergeant Borgmann's Unusual History 18-19
- ☐ Milwaukee Transit Passes 20
- ☐ World War I Pinbacks from Milwaukee 23-24
- ☐ The Kissi Penny 25

Fall 2003

- ☐ I Knew J.V. McDermott 14
- ☐ Harley's Century of Progress 15-17
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- ☐ History's Financial Burden-Money of the Confederacy 22-23
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- ☐ Christmas Club Checks--A Piece of Riggs History 15-17
- ☐ Cliff's Office 17
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- ☐ A Five Diamond Medal 25-26
- ☐ Great Lakes Fishing Tokens 26-28

The purpose of our Writer's awards is to encourage numismatic journalistic talents among our members. If you have an article you would like to have published in NOW News, send it to the NOW News Editor, P.O. Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560.

You may return your vote along with your dues.

April 25, 2004 - Wausau

Wisconsin Valley Coin Show at Park Inn, 2101 N. Mountain Road, Wausau. Hours: 9-5 pm. 40 dealer tables. Show Chm. Thad Streeter, 5002 Tanya St., Shofield, WI 54476. Phone 715-355-5437.

April 29-May 2, 2004 - Rosemont, IL

Chicago Intl. Coin Fair at Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Rd., Rosemont, IL. Bourse Chm. Kevin Foley 414-421-3484.

May 2, 2004 - Green Bay

Nicolet Coin Club's Spring Coin & Stamp Show at Rock Garden/Comfort Suites, 1951 Bond St., Green Bay. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 32 dealer tables. Bourse Chm. Roger Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313. Phone: 920-499-7035.

May 6-9, 2004 - Milwaukee

Central States 65th Anniversary Coin Convention. Contact Jerry Lebo, PO Box 841, Logansport, IN 46947. Phone 574-753-2489.

June 24-27, 2004 - Rosemont, IL

MidAmerica Coin Expo, Donald Stephens Convention Center, 5555, Rosemont, IL. Ph: 414-421-3484.

July 9-11, 2004 - Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention. Website: hometown.aol.com/BaltimoreCoinShow.

August 18-22, 2004 - ANA

World's Fair of Money at Pittsburgh, PA. Phone: 719-632-2646. website: convention@money.org.

August 22, 2004 - Fond du Lac

Fond du Lac Coin Show. (Location to announced)

October 8-10, 2004 - Lakeland, FL

Collectorama Show at Lakeland FL. website hometown.aol.com/CollectoramaShow.

December 3-5, 2004 - Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention. Ed Kuszmar Ph: 561-392-8551. website: hometown.aol.com/BaltimoreCoinShow.

February 20, 2005 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 22nd annual show. Contact Numismatic Research Society, P.O. Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

March 10-12, 2005 - ANA

Kansas City, MO

May 5-8, 2005 - Central States

St. Louis, MO

May 20-21, 2005 - NOW

NOW 45th Anniversary Event, hosted by Chet Krause at Iola. Hours: Fri. 12-6 pm; Sat. 8-6. Show Chm. Cliff Mishler (715-445-5050; Bourse Chm. Joel Edler (715-445-2214).

July 27-31, 2005 - ANA

San Jose, CA

2006 - ANA

Denver, CO (date to be announced).

May 3-6, 2007 - Central States

St. Louis, MO

2007 - NOW

Numismatists of Wisconsin's 47th annual show hosted by Madison Coin Club. (date and location to be announced).

August 2007 - ANA

Milwaukee, WI (date to be announced).

August 20-24, 2008 - ANA

St. Louis, MO.

NOW Contacts

Membership, dues, show dates, address changes, club news and numismatic articles. Send to:

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